

Message Text

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14

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SUBJECT: FRENCH MEDIA REACTIONS TO SECRETARY ROGERS' REPORT

1. LIMITED MEDIA REACTION TODATE TO SECRETARY ROGERS' ANNUAL FOREIGN POLICY REPORT WHICH ARRIVED TOO LATE FOR USE MOST MORNING NEWSPAPERS.

2. SUMMARY OF REPORT OVER MORNING RADIO NEWSCAST EMPHASIZED IMPROVEMENT IN FRANCO- AMERICAN RELATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FRANCE' S CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN INDOCHINA PEACE, AND BREAKTHROUGH IN JOINT EFFORTS SUPPRESS NARCOTICS TRAFFIC. MIDDAY NEWSCAST OVER GOF- OPERATED TELEVISION ALSO STRESSED POSITIVE ASPECTS AND SAID " IMPROVEMENT IN FRANCO- U. S. RELATIONS WHICH MR. ROGERS NOTES IS BOUND TO INCREASE WHEN PRESIDENT POMPIDOU MEETS WITH PRESIDENT NIXON LATER THIS YEAR." -- AURORE-- RAN AFP WIRE- SERVICE SUMMARY UNDER HEADLINE : ROGERS: THE CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE OF FRANCE" AND SAID FAVORABLE REFERENCES TO FRANCE " HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF WASHINGTON- PARIS RELATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES."

3. -- LE MONDE-- EDITORIAL TOOK CRITICAL, SOMEWHAT MOCKING TONE, CRITICIZING REPORT FOR LENGTH AND MANNER OF EVALUATING INTERNATIONAL BEHAVIOR OTHER COUNTRIES SIMILAR TO " HEADMASTER ON PRIZE- GIVING DAY." -- LE MONDE-- SAID FRANCE RECEIVED SPECIAL TREATMENT FOR HAVING SO MANY GOOD AND BAD MARKS AT SAME TIME. ACTIONS ON DRUGS AND INDOCHINA HAD PLACED FRANCE AT " TABLE OF HONOR" AFTER " YEARS OF BEING PLACED IN QUARANTINE" BUT COUNTRY REMAINS IN AMERICAN VIEW " THE BAD BOY IN THE ATLANTIC SCHOOL" BECAUSE " SHE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 PARIS 11150 211227 Z

DOES NOT HAVE THE GOOD TASTE, UNLIKE BRITAIN, TO DIFFER FROM THE
UNITED STATES ONLY ON QUESTIONS OF ' TACTICS AND PROCEDURE'"
AND FOR STIMULATING AUTONOMY WITHIN EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AGAINST
INTERESTS OF AMERICAN EXPORTERS. CRITICIZING BOTH US AND USSR,
-- LE MONDE-- CONCLUDES BY SAYING IT WOULD BE TO IGNORE REALITY
" TO SHUT ONE' S EYES TO THE FACT THAT TODAY' S GREAT POWERS
INSPIRE ' SCHADENFREUDE' RATHER THAN UNANIMITY."
IRWIN

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